

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### **"I HAVE A DREAM" Comprehension Check**

#### **I. Comprehension**

1. The speech was delivered at a demonstration called...
  - a. "The March on Washington for Civil Rights"
  - b. "The March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom"
  - c. "The March on Washington for Equality and Justice"
  - d. "The March on Washington to End Discrimination"
2. The speech was given in the year...
  - a. 1963
  - b. 1958
  - c. 1968
  - d. 1971
3. The speech makes a reference to "5 score years ago". This is clearly a reference to..
  - a. the assassination of President Lincoln
  - b. The end of the Civil War
  - c. The signing of The Emancipation Proclamation
  - d. The election of President Lincoln
4. In the speech Dr. King stated that the marchers have assembled in Washington to...
  - a. "send a message"
  - b. "sound a warning"
  - c. make a wake-up call"
  - d. "cash a check"
5. The word "quicksand" is used in the speech to represent...
  - a. poverty
  - b. ignorance
  - c. racial injustice
  - d. broken promises
6. The words "solid rock" in the speech refer to...
  - a. brotherhood
  - b. the Democratic Party
  - c. the Church
  - d. The Bill of Rights
7. The words "dark and desolate valley" in the speech refer to...
  - a. murders
  - b. childhood
  - c. slavery
  - d. segregation
8. The image of a "whirlwind" is presented in the speech. It stands for...
  - a. a revolt
  - b. confusion
  - c. a future world war
  - d. the unhappy past
9. The word "palace" in the speech refers to...
  - a. a church
  - b. the White House
  - c. God
  - d. justice
10. A "cup" is used as a symbol by Dr. King. That cup is really...
  - a. equality
  - b. bitterness
  - c. disappointment
  - d. dreams
11. Dr. King stated that physical force must be opposed by some other kind of force. Which one is it?
  - a. moral force
  - b. political force
  - c. intellectual force
  - d. soul force
12. Dr. King stated that the dream he was sharing in his speech came from the...
  - a. American dream
  - b. Bible
  - c. Constitution
  - d. Still-living dreams of former slaves
13. in describing the hill of Georgia, Dr. King characterizes them as..
  - a. "forested"
  - b. "sandy"
  - c. "worn"
  - d. "red"

14. In Mississippi, Dr. King said, it was "hot". According to him, Mississippi's heat was caused by...
- hatred
  - injustice
  - poverty
  - frustration
15. Dr. King mentioned his children in the speech. How many children did he say he had?
- two
  - three
  - four
  - five
16. Dr. King said that someday all of America's "rough places" will be made...
- smooth
  - equal
  - straight
  - plain
17. Dr. King said that faith will be able to turn a "mountain of despair" into a..
- "monument of success"
  - "tower of justice"
  - "pillar of equality"
  - "stone of hope"
18. Two songs were mentioned by Dr. King in his speech. They were...
- "America the Beautiful" and a spiritual
  - "God Bless America" and a spiritual
  - two spirituals
  - "My Country Tis of Thee" and a spiritual
19. The speech mentioned "prodigious hilltops", and stated they were located in...
- Alaska
  - New Hampshire
  - New York
  - Tennessee
20. The speech mentioned a state's "mighty mountains". Dr. King said they were located in...
- Idaho
  - Colorado
  - New York
  - Kentucky
21. The speech mentioned "snow-capped Rockies". What state did Dr. King say they were located in?
- Colorado
  - North Dakota
  - Montana
  - Utah
22. Dr. King described one state's hills as "curvaceous slopes". What state did he say they were in?
- Georgia
  - Texas
  - Vermont
  - California
23. According to Dr. King, Mississippi is made up of "hills and..."
- "valleys"
  - "molehills"
  - "mountains"
  - "streams"
24. Dr. King stated that the nation owes a promise to every person. Then he said that promise is a promise of...
- jobs
  - voting rights
  - dreams
  - inalienable rights
25. Most of the time Dr. King referred to Americans of African ancestry, he used the term...
- Blacks
  - African-Americans
  - Negroes
  - Persons of Color
26. The main focus of King's speech is on
- Celebrating the anniversary of the Emancipation Proclamation
  - Convincing everyone to live in peace and tranquility
  - Ending segregation and racial injustice in America
  - Getting more money for America's black population

27. In "I Have a Dream," Martin Luther King, Jr. urges his followers to
- a. Work toward gradual change
  - b. Demand justice now
  - c. Use any means necessary
  - d. Distrust white people

28. Which repeated phrase in King's speech has additional power because it is from a familiar patriotic song?
- a. "I have a dream"
  - b. "One hundred years later"
  - c. "Now is the time"
  - d. "Let freedom ring"

**II. Words in Context: Choose the letter of the best answer.**

29. A legitimate concern is
- a. Reasonable
  - b. False
  - c. Questionable
  - d. Legal
30. If people have a reconciliation, they return to a state of being
- a. Friends
  - b. Enemies
  - c. Prisoners
  - d. Soldiers
31. A man who seeks social mobility wants to
- a. Convince others
  - b. Buy a house
  - c. Go to a different place
  - d. Improve his situation

**III. Recall the ideas in the speech by King. Then answer the questions in one or two sentences.**

32. According to King, the founders who signed the Constitution wrote African Americans "a bad check." What does he mean?
33. What attitude does King urge African Americans to take toward white people?
34. What is King's dream for the children of Alabama?
35. The phrase "Let Freedom Ring" was used multiple times by Dr. King in the speech. How many times did the exact phrase "Let Freedom Ring" appear?